



Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau

October 27, 2009

South Coast Blue Ribbon Task Force
Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
c/o California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SUPPORT FOR MARINE PROTECTED AREA PROPOSAL 2

Dear Blue Ribbon Task Force Members:

The Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau is concerned with the impact of a Marine Protected Area in Redondo Beach due to the economic impacts on businesses located throughout the area.

Redondo Beach is home to some of the most beautiful marine life and ecosystem in Southern California and we understand the need to protect vital marine life and the delicate ecosystem that make the area so inviting. However, we are urging you to take into consideration the cross section of businesses that stand to be impacted by the implementation of a Marine Protected Area (MPA), especially one that includes the King Harbor area and surrounding businesses.

According to the Recreation Marine Research Center at Michigan State University, Redondo Beach's King Harbor generates nearly \$47 million in economic activity and many jobs within a 30 mile radius. It has been further estimated that fishing at Rocky Point on the Palos Verdes Peninsula is responsible for over \$17 million of this economic activity.

In this regard we strongly support MPA Proposal 2 and keeping Rocky Point open in order to minimize the negative economic impacts to our local economy while also improving the health of our aquatic ecosystem. Other stakeholders have also come out in support of this proposal especially the individuals and businesses most likely to be hardest hit by the implementation of a MPA. Please continue to help us by protecting the local economy, saving jobs, and maintaining both commercial and recreational opportunities for our area.

Thank you for your consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Marna Smeltzer
President/CEO

CC:

State Senator Jenny Oropeza	916-323-6056
Assembly Member Ted Lieu	916-319-2153
California Chamber of Commerce	916-325-1272

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